

## FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

APR 2 9 2004

Thomas D. Vaughn, Esq. Husch & Eppenberger, LLC 235 East High Street PO Box 1251 Jefferson City, MO 65102-1251

**RE:** MUR 5447

Missouri Republican State Committee—Federal Committee and Harvey M. Tettlebaum, as treasurer

Dear Mr. Vaughn:

On April 26, 2004, the Commission found that there is reason to believe that your clients, the Missouri Republican State Committee—Federal Committee and Harvey M. Tettlebaum, as treasurer, ("the Committee") violated 2 U.S.C. § 434(b) and 11 C.F.R. §§ 102.5(a) and 106.5(g), provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). The Factual and Legal Analysis, which formed a basis for the Commission's findings, can be found in Findings Two and Six of the Commission's Final Audit Report of the Committee, which is attached.

You may submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission's consideration of this matter. Please submit such materials to the General Counsel's Office within 15 days of your receipt of this letter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath. In the absence of additional information, the Commission may find probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred and proceed with conciliation.

In order to expedite the resolution of this matter, the Commission has also decided to offer to enter into negotiations directed towards reaching a conciliation agreement in settlement of this matter prior to a finding of probable cause to believe. Enclosed is a conciliation agreement that the Commission has approved.

If your clients are interested in expediting the resolution of this matter by pursuing preprobable cause conciliation, and if they agree with the provisions of the enclosed agreement, please sign and return the agreement, along with the civil penalty, to the Commission. In light of the fact that conciliation negotiations, prior to a finding of probable cause to believe, are limited to a maximum of 30 days, you should respond to this notification as soon as possible.

Requests for extensions of time will not be routinely granted. Requests must be made in writing at least five days prior to the due date of the response and specific good cause must be demonstrated. In addition, the Office of the General Counsel ordinarily will not give extensions beyond 20 days.



This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A), unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the investigation to be made public.

For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling possible violations of the Act. If you have any questions, please contact Brant Levine, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1572.

Sincerely,

Bradley A. Smith

Chairman

Enclosures
Findings Two and Six of the Final Audit Report
Procedures
Conciliation Agreement